

BOARD OF EDUCATION,  
Rooms, No. 7 South Sixth Avenue.

A. NOEL BLAKEMAN, Pres.  
CHAS. E. NICHOLS, Supt.  
W. J. WILLIAMS, Clerk.

SCHOOL NO. 5.  
JAMES M. GRIMES, Principal.

Mount Vernon, N. C., Feb. 12,

1896

My dear Mrs. Grandy:—Your lovely letter reached me this morning and I have been exceedingly home-sick to see you and the precious little baby and "California", all day. Am so glad to hear of your improved health; had hoped from the beginning that you would be well and strong after baby came. It makes me very happy too, to know that you are happy and love your baby so much. You know my feelings in regard to the coming of the little one and altho' you were not entirely pleased in anticipation of the coming of the heir yet I fully believed you would have the mother-love after all. Do not say anything about being poor if you never get your back-room etc. finished. Those things are luxuries and very nice and convenient but you have more in the love of your good devoted husband and darling baby than many millionaires have. Think of your poor forlorn little sister who has no one to care for her and no one to love—

Yes dear I knew your baby is a girl but wanted it to be a boy and called it Bobby in my daily thoughts of it and can hardly think of it as not being little Bobby. My sister intends to call her baby Myra but expect it is a good thing that it was a boy. It would have been a much spoiled youngster if I had had any extra claim on it. My "J." stands for "Jane", plain old-fashioned Jane — I sometimes write it Jean as I dislike the former so much. If it were anything else I'd ask you to consider it for baby Grandy but that is an impossible





<sup>2</sup> He never to stick to any one for life.

Am pleased that the cap was a good fit and that you liked it with the rucking and ribbon. Forgot to tell you that I did not put ties on because I remembered that you had some cream china silk hemstitched ready for the cap. I hope I am not mistaken regarding that as I would feel exceedingly small if I have mixed you up with some body else and her bonnet strings. Now as to the coat - you know I do love to make it for you and will do my best if you'll send it to me. I dearly love to make little clothes and it is not tiresome to me as some other things might be. Shall expect it in a few days after this has time to reach you.

Wednesday A. M. 11-30 o'clock - yesterday morning I was busy until lunch time and after lunch went to Mrs Sloth to join the ladies of the Ruskin Circle. did not get home till dinner time and was too tired to write last night. I am doing entirely too much and will have to cut out all those things. I have so many invitations to different functions - My uncle and Aunt's friends are so very nice to me - but I told uncle last night while I enjoyed them I felt it was too much for me and I thought I would be better and happier to stay quietly at home and read and do just as I like. He thinks I am wise in making such a decision. I cannot tell you what a perfect treasure my uncle is - so good and kind and the most thoughtful man I think I ever knew. He would not allow me to get up this morning - Brought my fruit up to me and when he started to school said he would "spank" me when he came home to lunch if I dared get out of bed before 10-30 or 11 o'clock. I obeyed him and feel rested. Last evening he brought me a "Valentine" and brings me fruit, candy nuts and so many things - just like the most devoted sweet heart one could have. I am sure he will have me completely spoiled but I do not know how to object - he enjoys doing it as much as I enjoy receiving - He will not talk of my leaving before July - School close last of June - and of course would not consent for me to do anything as he is so anxious to have me get well and strong - And I am so much better dear - only when I am on the "go" for several days in succession I get very tired.

Last Sat. Miss Van Horn took me out to "see the sights" - We left home at 8 o'clock and returned at 6-30. Took the elevated to 76<sup>th</sup> St. then walked two or three squares to Fifty Ave. to the Clarke mansion - The finest and costliest in the U.S. - We then walked down the Ave. (called Millionaires Row) past





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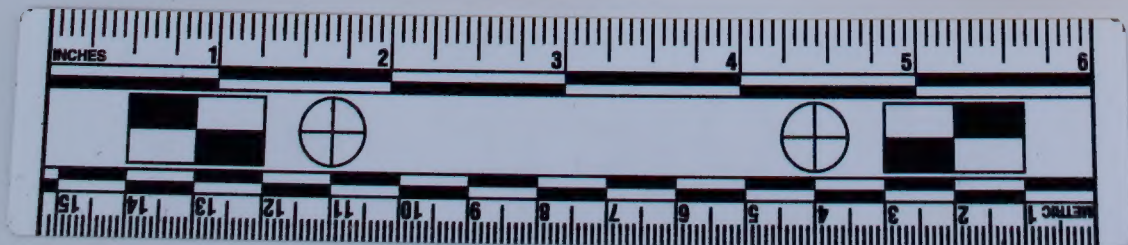
A. NOEL BLAKEMAN, Pres.  
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SCHOOL NO. 3,  
JAMES M. GRIMES, Principal.

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Carnegie's, Goulds, Astors, <sup>Mount Vernon, N. C.</sup> the Vanderbills and other millionaires (and didn't  
enjoy them once) We spent some little time in St. Patrick's Cathedral  
- the largest and most expensive church edifice in America. It was  
very fine indeed. Then we went on down to Tiffanys and went thro'  
their fine store - cut glass, <sup>china</sup> silver, jewels & statuary - oh! how I enjoyed  
it all - perfectly magnificent. We spent some time at Gorkham's but they  
do not have the display that Tiffanys do. By this time we were ready  
for lunch and as it was about noon we went to Macys and had  
lunch afterwards looking thro' their art-gallery hastily. Then did a little  
shopping - Myra J. buying a white shirt-waist (Jenny) and a white kid belt.  
When 2 o'clock came we went to the Hippodrome to spend the after-noon.  
This is a new play-house and is the "largest, safest, handsomest and  
coziest in the world" - comfortably seats 2500 people. We enjoyed the  
performances very much and came home feeling that we had had a "great day".  
Sunday we went to church and rested in the mean time - Uncle teaches  
a S.S. class but I do not go till church time. Monday directly after lunch  
I went with Dr. Porter, a student who will graduate this spring from the  
Cornell College connected with Bellevue. We went thro' the College then to  
the Hospital Amphitheatre to witness an operation by Dr. Folk of the Fac-  
ulty. Some day soon I am going with him to the morgue and attend  
an Autopsy and go thro' the hospital. It is a very old hospital - but they  
are already starting to build a fine new one.

We expect to have my cousins - Albert from University of Penna.  
and Hershey from Cornell to spend Easter Vacation with us. You have  
heard me speak of them - if you remember. They are my favorite cousins.

I am delighted that the baby is so good - even so I know she demands  
a great deal of attention. I often wish I were near enough so I could run in and  
help you with your work or take baby or help with your sewing - anything to  
help you. Have you ever talked of a name for her? yes, I'd love a lock of her hair but





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it seems such a pity to cut it off - I am hoping I may see her before the other  
year but who knows - I don't tell what she'll be this time next year - I am  
anxious to see your boy now - am sure your kitchen must be nice and after all  
that where you spend greatest part of your time when not sleeping - No doubt it has  
been inconvenient for you to not live house all finished but you have enjoyed plan-  
ning etc. and watching G. W. work. I think that would be fine - Would like to have  
just such an experience myself - Dearie, I can hardly realize now that it was  
possible for anyone to be so cross and cranky as I was when with you - I had  
much to make me feel blue and was so miserable much of time but after  
all there was no reason for it - It was so unlike me and I am so differ-  
ent now that I long to have a chance to do something to make it all up  
to you - You were always so kind and patient with me - I shan't forget you  
for it - It was good of Mrs. Wing to let her girl come and help you - No doubt she  
will let her come occasionally for a day - Did they buy out on Pasadena ave.  
Very sorry your Cousin Ella is so poorly - Do you or the Miss Sibleys ever hear from  
Mrs. Brown? I did not write her but once and had promised to let her hear how  
I got home - Yes you were right about our change of weather - Feb. 1st came  
in cold and we have had quite a little snow since and it has been  
quite cold. One day when it was snowing hard I said to uncle - If we were in  
Cal. I would say - You may go out in the garden and get some vegetables for  
dinner and let get the flowers for the table. He thought that would be very fine.  
Now as to Willowbrook - Thank you very much for your kindness in  
copying the ant. paid and for attending to it for me - Some how I thought  
I had paid \$25.00 down when first bought - But suppose not or it  
would have said so on contract. Do not know how I got that into my  
head - That was according to contract but suppose I just did not have the  
money then - Seems strange that I could not remember about it - No I think  
it would be useless to plant trees unless they could be attended to - I am  
sorry there did not live but hardly expected that they would. No you need  
not send the contract - If you will kindly attend to my payments as I  
send the money I'll try to do something to repay you some time, as you  
have yours to attend to at the same time it will not be quite same trouble.  
Have you ever inquired about taxes? There may be none but if there  
should be they can sell the lots to pay taxes and we be none the wiser.  
Yes, keep up your interest if you can do no more now - The lots will be  
of much more value in a few years. If we could build they would be

